Shell Nature Studies 16 BUTTERFLIES

PAINTED BY TRISTRAM HILLIER

The butterfly year begins when BRIMSTONES (1, ♂; 2, ♀) flutter from hibernation into the March sunshine. Early summer brings the GREEN HAIRSTREAK (3, 4), brown above, green below. Later months introduce the COMMON BLUE (5, ♂, upper side; 6, ♂, under side; 7, ♀, upper side; 8, ♀, under side), and less vivid and more local, the CHALK-HILL BLUE (9, ♂, upper side; 10, ♂, under side; 11, ♀).

Other local kinds are the ADONIS BLUE (12, ♂, upper side; 13, ♂, under side; 14, ♀, under side) and the MARBLED WHITE (15, ♂; 16, ♀), both typical of chalky country. Also the PURPLE EMPEROR (17) of southern oak and beech woods, whose Empress (18 and 19, under side) lacks the distinctive purple; and the SWALLOW-TAIL (20) of Wicken Fen and the Broads. For colour and markings few of the rarer butterflies can match the delicious PEACOCK (21).

Some butterflies migrate to us across the sea. The RED ADMIRAL (22), or "Red Admirable", as it was first called, migrates from southern Europe. The very rare CAMBERWELL BEAUTY (23), first captured at Camberwell in 1748, flies across from Norway. The MONARCH OF MILKWEED (24), largest of all and nearly four inches across, comes occasionally from America, probably on board ship.

♂ is the symbol for male, ♀ for female; where no symbols given, ♂ and ♀ are very similar.

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Inventions in Guinness Time...3

THE TRAMCAR

Of Electricity I sing,
And someone's useful notion
To use this scientific thing
For human locomotion.

I sing the fearless artisans
Versed in its mystic action,
A mixture of (one understands)
Repulsion and attraction.

I sing (until my larynx fails)
The fate of these aspiring
To stand with one foot on the rails
And one foot on the wiring.

In fact I'll sing (while I can stand)
The tramcar, and the speed it
Will bear me to my Guinness, and
My Goodness, how I'll need it!

O Ampère, Volta, Watt and Ohm!
No wonder you look gloomy—
The Guinness that I have at home
Sends stronger currents through me.

Guinness is good for you

"What'll happen in a thunderstorm, I'd like to know?"

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